(c) There are 33 Family Counseling Centres functioning in Orissa.

Education mafia

4074. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 1108 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 13th December, 2004 and state:

(a) whether Government are aware that education sector is under the grip of education mafia in several States;

(b) whether Government are aware that in Uttaranchal several retired employees of the education department have been denied their retirement benefits despite Allahabad High Court orders with reference to Writ Petition No: 2757 of 1995 due to vested interests who are demanding bribes to clear their pension dues;

(c) what action has been taken against the official responsible;

(d) whether Government propose to order a CBI enquiry into the matter; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The matter pertains to State Government employees and therefore is not in the jurisdiction of the Central Government.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Periods in Kendriya Vidyalayas

†4075. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of periods in Kendriya Vidyalayas has been reduced from nine to eight and as a result thereof the work load on teachers has increased;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government are considering to restore the previous system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Kendriya Vidyalayas have six-day week, having eight periods of forty minutes duration in a day. The Vidyalayas function for six hours and ten minutes. In Kendriya Vidyalayas where second shift is functioning this duration is of five hours and fifteen minutes per shift, with adjustment in the duration of recess/interval. The periods are of 35 minutes each. Considering the importance of classroom transaction in the teaching and learning process, the present system is found to be economical and has resulted in efficient use of resources by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan.

(c) No, Sir.

Practicals for Tenth Class

†4076. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of practicals organised for the students of Tenth Class in the Kendriya Vidyalayas;

(b) the amount allocated every year on laboratories for Tenth Class; and

(c) the capacity of each laboratory in terms of the students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan organizes 15 practical exercises for the students of Tenth Class as prescribed by CBSE in the Secondary School Curriculum.

(b) Separate amount is not allocated for laboratories for Tenth Class. Funds are allocated for laboratories which are used by students of secondary and higher secondary classes. During the years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 amounts of Rs. 321.10 lakh, Rs. 321.10 lakh and Rs. 315.25 lakh respectively were allocated for laboratories. In addition, Vidyalayas also spend amount out of the Vidyalaya Vikas Nidhi being collected from the students.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.